

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 DLOS-06 SAL-01 /087 W

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P 301315Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3291

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

UNCLAS LA PAZ 9508

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, BL, CL, E

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT BANZER DECLARES SEA OUTLET NEGOTIATIONS

MUST CONTINUE

REF: A) LA PAZ 9480, B) SANTIAGO 11329

1. PRIOR TO PRESIDENT BANZER'S DEPARTURE FROM BUENOS AIRES ON NOVEMBER 28, IN A WRITTEN PRESS STATEMENT ON THE SEA OUTLET NEGOTIATIONS IMPASSE, PRESIDENT BANZER SAID THAT BOLIVIA IS SURE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN THE FORM OF A FRANK DIALOGUE LEADING TOWARD MORE CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTIONS. BANZER WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE GOB HAS ALWAYS CALLED FOR A SOLUTION TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH A FORMULA OF PEACE, DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION IN THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC. IN A CLEAR REFERENCE TO THE HOTLY DEBATED QUESTION OF TERRITORIAL EXCHANGE, THE BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND HIS AUDIENCE THAT THE ORIGINAL LA PAZ PROPOSAL TO SANTIAGO IN AUGUST 1975 MADE NO MENTION OF ANY KIND OF BOLIVIAN COMPENSATION TO CHILE. HE POINTED OUT THAT BOTH CHILE AND PERU HAVE NOW

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PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED BOLIVIA'S RIGHT TO A PACIFIC

OUTLET AND THE NEED TO URGENTLY RESOLVE HIS
COUNTRY'S LANDLOCKED CONDITION.

2. GOB OFFICIALS AND CONAMAR HAVE ALREADY BEGUN
AN EXHAUSTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EVENTS OF THE PAST
WEEK AND BANZER ON HIS RETURN TO BOLIVIA REFUSED
TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER ON THE SUBJECT AT THIS
TIME. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN BOLIVIAN DAILIES HAS
BEEN MODERATE IN TONE REFLECTING MORE ON PAST
NEGOTIATIONS THAN SUGGESTING FUTURE COURSES OF
ACTION. MENTION HAS BEEN MADE OF THE INEVITABLE
STRAIN ON PERUVIAN-CHILEAN RELATIONS AND ILLUSIONS
TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ARMED HOSTILITIES IN THE AREA
HAVE BEEN REVIDED IN A FEW EDITORIALS. ALL FOLLOW
THE BANZER LINE THAT NEGOTIATIONS MUST CONTINUE
ALBEIT IN A REVAMPED FORM, BUT SOME ARE MORE
PESSIMISTIC THAN OTHERS.
STEDMAN

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